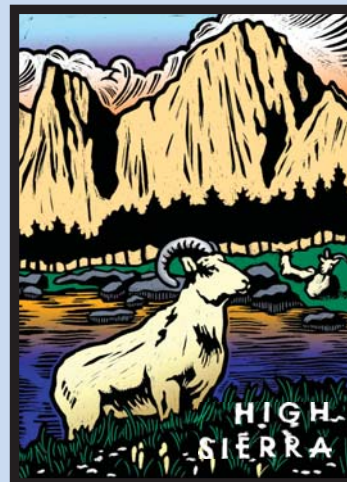


Visitor Guide: Winter 2015-16

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks & Sequoia National Forest/Giant Sequoia National Monument



Your fees make a difference!

Amazing things can happen with your help. Are you aware of how much good your entrance fee does for these parks?

Fees don't go toward basic park operations, but 80% of them stay here to maintain and improve facilities and services that contribute to your park experience. Year by year, project by project, you can see this in a wide variety of repairs, replacements, and renovations.

Your fees fund projects indoors and out: They make some trails more accessible to wheelchairs, strollers, and all of us! They pay for improving camp sites and restrooms, as well as better signage.

Better bear boxes keep people and bears safer from each other. Picnic areas offer more accessible tables, and amphitheater walkways have been paved. Water-

treatment plants have been upgraded. And the map brochure that you get at the entrance station? Funded mostly by fees.

Trails take a beating from weather and use. Funds from fees help support projects that repair or reroute trails to decrease erosion and protect soils and wetlands.

Many exhibits have been improved or replaced. The 40-year-old exhibits at Lodgepole Visitor Center? We are working, with your help, toward replacing them in a few years. Watch for change at Crystal Cave, too; we'll be rebuilding the trail *and* adding exhibits.

While people know these parks best for their natural wonders, cultural resources benefit, too. Archeological sites, historic buildings, and objects left by early residents and visitors teach

us how people interacted with this place, and help us to envision and learn from the past.

As helpful as your fees are, see if you qualify for one of the money-saving passes (senior, access, and active military). Or consider buying an annual pass if you visit more than once a year (*details on page 11*).

Take advantage of fee-free days, too. In 2016, there will be 16 of them at parks nationwide to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service.

Additional no-fee days at these parks take place with special events: Junior Ranger Day - April 23; National Trails Day - June 4; a day honoring Buffalo Soldiers - June 18, and the annual Nation's Christmas Tree celebration - December 11. Mark your calendars and join us!

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